



H1N1 Virus Partner Briefing

Influenza A (H1N1) Virus

September 9, 2009, 3 p.m.

Local Influenza Activity Level: None¹

Rhode Island: 75 hospitalized to date, 3 deaths

National Report: 53 states (including DC, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico & Virgin Islands) with 9,079 hospitalized cases, 593 deaths

New CDC guidance for child care programs

HEALTH reviews and updates H1N1 guidance posted on its website on a continual basis. This includes providing links to new and updated recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The CDC recently released guidance to help child care and early childhood programs prepare for and respond to influenza. The guidance is intended to help decrease the spread of flu among children and child care providers during the 2009-2010 influenza season. The CDC also developed a Communication Toolkit that provides flu information and communication resources for center-based and home-based child care programs, Head Start programs, and other early childhood programs. This toolkit is similar to previously released toolkits for K-12 Schools and Institutions of Higher Education.

To read the CDC guidance for child care programs, please see

<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/childcare/guidance.htm>. To access the Communication Toolkit for child care programs, please see <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/childcare/toolkit/>.

Flu campaign begins Thursday 9/10

HEALTH will kick off its seasonal and H1N1 flu campaign with a press event on Thursday, September 10 at the State House. Vaccinations for seasonal flu will begin first this fall, followed by vaccinations for H1N1 starting this October. HEALTH will provide more information about its flu campaign to partners as it becomes available.

Resources

- HEALTH at <http://www.health.ri.gov>;
- H1N1 Information Line (M-F 8:30am- 4:30pm) 401-222-8022
- H1N1 email address h1n1@health.ri.gov
- CDC at <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/>
- WHO at <http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/en/index.html>

¹ The criteria for an Influenza Activity Level of "None" are low influenza-like illness activity and no lab-confirmed cases of influenza.